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First name: Wade

Last name: Murphy

Organization: Back Country Horsemen of Montana

Title:

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On behalf of the Back Country Horseman of Montana I would like to comment on the proposed Crazy Mountain Land exchange #63115. We recognized the extreme complexity of the land ownership issues in this area and greatly appreciate the hard work that the forest service has put into reaching a solution. The Back Country Horseman have a long history of working with the USFS to protect and improve equine in the back country.

We have some concerns about this land exchange and would like to be part of the ongoing process to find a working solution. We are concerned that this current proposal will lead to the loss of quality lowland trails that have been used for generations in exchange for trails that are extremely steep and not friendly for equine use. We are also concerned about the trailhead bottleneck that this proposal seems to create. Trailhead conflicts are becoming more and more of an issue as more people access public lands. We are concerned that this proposal would restrict equine as a result of trailhead crowding and parking problems.

Thank you again for your ongoing hard work to solve this very complex challenge.

Respectfully submitted,

Wade Murphy, State Chairman

Back Country Horsemen of Montana